

AMENDMENT

To: Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

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4. Item to be Amended: Claims

5. Subject Matter of Amendment

The claims are respectfully requested to be amended as shown on the separate sheets, specifically, as follows.

(1) Claims 1 to 5 have been cancelled, and instead an amended version of all these claims has been added as new claims 6 to 10 respectively.

(2) The added claim 6 has been prepared by adding to the cancelled claim 1 the following recitation: —wherein: when the sealing material for the ant groove is fitted to said ant groove, said concave inlet portion is disposed on an opening edge of the ant groove, and then the entirety of the sealing material for the ant groove is made to gyrate toward the inside of the ant groove around said concave inlet portion as the base point, so that the sealing material for the ant groove gets pressed into the ant groove in a state where the periphery of said corner portion is elastically deformed—.

(3) The added claims 7 to 10 have been prepared by, in the cancelled dependent claims 2 to 5 respectively, renumbering the cited dependence source claim Nos. in accordance with the explanation given in the above item (1).

6. List of documents appended hereto:

(1) Substitute pages of the claims (pages 30 and 31)

**10/549394****JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 4 SEP 2005**  
CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
- 5 2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
- 10 5. (Cancelled)
6. (Added) A sealing material for an ant groove, which is fitted to the ant groove made in a surface of either one of members in a joint place between these  
15 members and contacts with a surface of the other member, thereby sealing both the members,  
with the sealing material comprising:  
an elastically deformable material; and  
a sectional shape having: a straight bottom edge which is disposed on a bottom  
20 face of said ant groove; an arched convex edge which contacts with the surface of said other member facing said ant groove; a first projecting edge which connects with one end of said bottom edge and projects outside; a concave inlet portion which is located between said first projecting edge and said arched convex edge; a second projecting edge which connects with the other end of said straight bottom edge and is  
25 composed of straight lines that project outside; a straight sloping edge of which one end connects with the opposite end of said arched convex edge as to said first projecting edge and of which the other end connects with said second projecting edge; and at least one corner portion which is constituted in the range of from said

straight bottom edge via said second projecting edge to said sloping edge;

wherein: when the sealing material for the ant groove is fitted to said ant groove, said concave inlet portion is disposed on an opening edge of the ant groove, and then the entirety of the sealing material for the ant groove is made to gyrate  
 5 toward the inside of the ant groove around said concave inlet portion as the base point, so that the sealing material for the ant groove gets pressed into the ant groove in a state where the periphery of said corner portion is elastically deformed.

7. (Added) A sealing material for an ant groove according to claim 6,  
 10 wherein the maximum value X of distances of from said corner portion to said concave inlet portion has a relationship of  $X/B = 1.00-1.10$  with an opening width B of said ant groove.

8. (Added) A sealing material for an ant groove according to claim 6 or 7,  
 15 wherein:

said second projecting edge is formed by connecting a pair of straight edges together in a convexly crooked shape; and

said corner portion is constituted in the following three places: a place between said straight bottom edge and said second projecting edge; a crooked place of said  
 20 second projecting edge; and a place between said second projecting edge and said sloping edge.

9. (Added) A sealing material for an ant groove according to any one of claims 6 to 8, which:

25 further comprises a vertical edge connecting said arched convex edge and said concave inlet portion together; and

makes a clearance between said vertical edge and an opening edge of said ant groove when fitted to said ant groove.

10. (Added) A sealing material for an ant groove according to claim 6,  
which:

is fitted to said ant groove of a ring shape in a ring shape corresponding to said  
5 ant groove of the ring shape;

has a location such that said first projecting edge and said concave inlet portion  
are located at the outer peripheral side of said ring shape;

has a location such that said second projecting edge, said straight sloping edge,  
and said corner portion are located at the inner peripheral side of said ring shape; and

10 has a peripheral length extended by 1-10 % in a state fitted to said ant groove  
of the ring shape when compared with a free state.